

UNITED STATES TARIFF COMMISSION

TC Publication 22

[AA1921--19]

June 2, 1961

PORTLAND CEMENT FROM BELGIUM

Determination of Injury

On March 3, 1961, the United States Tariff Commission was advised by the Acting Secretary of the Treasury that portland cement, other than white nonstaining portland cement, from Belgium, except as to importations from the firm of Cimenteries et Briqueteries Reunies, is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of the Antidumping Act, 1921, as amended. In accordance with the requirements of section 201(a) of the Antidumping Act (19 U.S.C. 160(a)), the Tariff Commission instituted an investigation to determine whether an industry in the United States is being or is likely to be injured, or is prevented from being established, by reason of the importation of such merchandise into the United States.

A public hearing in connection with the investigation was held on April 28, 1961. Notices of the investigation and hearing were published in the Federal Register (26 F.R. 2064 and 26 F.R. 2735).

In arriving at a determination in this case, due consideration was given by the Tariff Commission to all written submissions from interested parties, all testimony adduced at the hearing, and all factual information obtained by the Commission's staff.

On the basis of the investigation, the Commission has unani-
mously^{1/} determined that an industry in the United States is being
injured by reason of the importation of portland cement, other than
white nonstaining portland cement, from Belgium at less than fair
value within the meaning of the Antidumping Act, 1921, as amended.

Statement of Reasons

Portland cement is a standardized or fungible product the
sale of which in a given market is generally contingent upon its
price not being higher than the price of like competitive cement.
It is a heavy, low-valued product which, by reason of trans-
portation costs, can be sold economically only to users located
within a relatively short distance from the cement plants (or port
of entry in the case of imported cement). The imports of Belgian
portland cement which are injuring the domestic industry concerned
are entering at the ports of Port Everglades, West Palm Beach,
Fort Pierce, Port Canaveral, and Jacksonville, Florida, and are
being sold in a limited geographical area that is supplied with
domestic portland cement by plants in or adjacent to the same
area. This area, consisting of the east coast of Florida, is
referred to herein as the "competitive market area." The domestic
portland cement plants that have supplied such cement in that area
and that have in recent years sold substantial quantities of such

^{1/} Commissioner Jones did not participate.

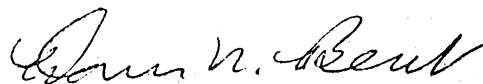
cement there, are considered to constitute "an industry" for the purposes of the Antidumping Act.

As a result of the sale of the particular portland cement by Belgian exporters at less than fair value, substantial quantities of such cement have been sold and are likely to be sold in the "competitive market area" at prices which compelled the domestic producers who historically supplied the pertinent market area to lower their established prices of like domestic cement below those that prevailed prior to the sales of such Belgian cement at less than fair value.

The industry concerned has lost a substantial volume of sales of such cement in such areas, which loss is directly attributable to the price of the imported cement made possible by reason of its sale at less than fair value by the exporters.

This determination and statement of reasons are published pursuant to section 201(c) of the Antidumping Act, 1921, as amended.

By the Commission:



DONN N. BENT
Secretary